## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-07 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-14 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02 INT-05 HEW-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 CEA-01 EA-12 FRB-01 NEA-10 OPIC-06 TRSE-00 AGRE-00 OMB-01 /161 W

P R 091431Z DEC 77 FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2156 INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY OSLO AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

**UNCLAS HELSINKI 2885** 

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, ECE, OECD, FI
SUBJECT: US POLICY ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES

REF: STATE 281111,

1. REFTEL AND DISCUSSIONS DURING AN OECD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING EARLIER THIS WEEK HAVE PROVIDED THE ONLY INFORMATION THE FINNS HAVE AT THIS POINT ON CONSIDERATION OF A TOXIC CHEMICALS CONVENTION. MASANEN OF MFA, AFTER DISCUSSION OF POINTS IN REFTEL WITH OJALA, CHIEF OF THE INTERIOR MINISTRY'S ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS DIVISION, OBSERVED THAT THE FINNS' LACK OF KNOWLEDGE WAS NOT IN KEEPING WITH THEIR STRONG INTEREST IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS. MASANEN NOTED THAT THE FINNISH PROPOSAL IN MARCH TO ECE EXECUITVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK OF THEMES SUITABLE FOR AN ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESS UNCLASSIFIED

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ON ENVIRONMENT HAD INCLUDED "CONTROL OF TOXIC CHEMICALS AND OTHER HARMFUL SUBSTANCES."

2. MASANEN EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE BASIC PHILOSOPHY UNDERLYING THE US THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE ELEMENTS OF A CONVENTION. SHE SAID HOWEVER THAT THE FINNS WOULD NEED MORE TIME TO STUDY THESE THOUGHTS AND

CONSIDER LINKAGES WITH STEPS IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL CONTEXTS BEFORE THEY COULD STATE VIEWS ON SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF A CONVENTION. SHE EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT UNTIL NOW THE FINNS HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS DESCRIBED PARA 5 REFTEL WITH NORWAY AND SWEDEN. TYPICALLY THE THREE COUNTRIES CONSULT CLOSELY ON INTERNATIONAL MATTERS. MASANEN ASKED THAT USG PASS ON INFORMATION ON FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. RIDGWAY

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: ENVIRONMENT, POLICIES, MEETINGS, TOXINS & ANTITOXINS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 09-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977HELSIN02885
Document Source: Conference Confe

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D770458-0952 Format: TEL From: HELSINKI

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

**Expiration:** 

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771274/aaaackqz.tel

Line Count: 71 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d3a12308-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION OES

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 STĂTE 281111

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 25-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 297515 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US POLICY ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES TAGS: SENV, FI, US, ECE, OECD To: STATE USOECD

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d3a12308-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009